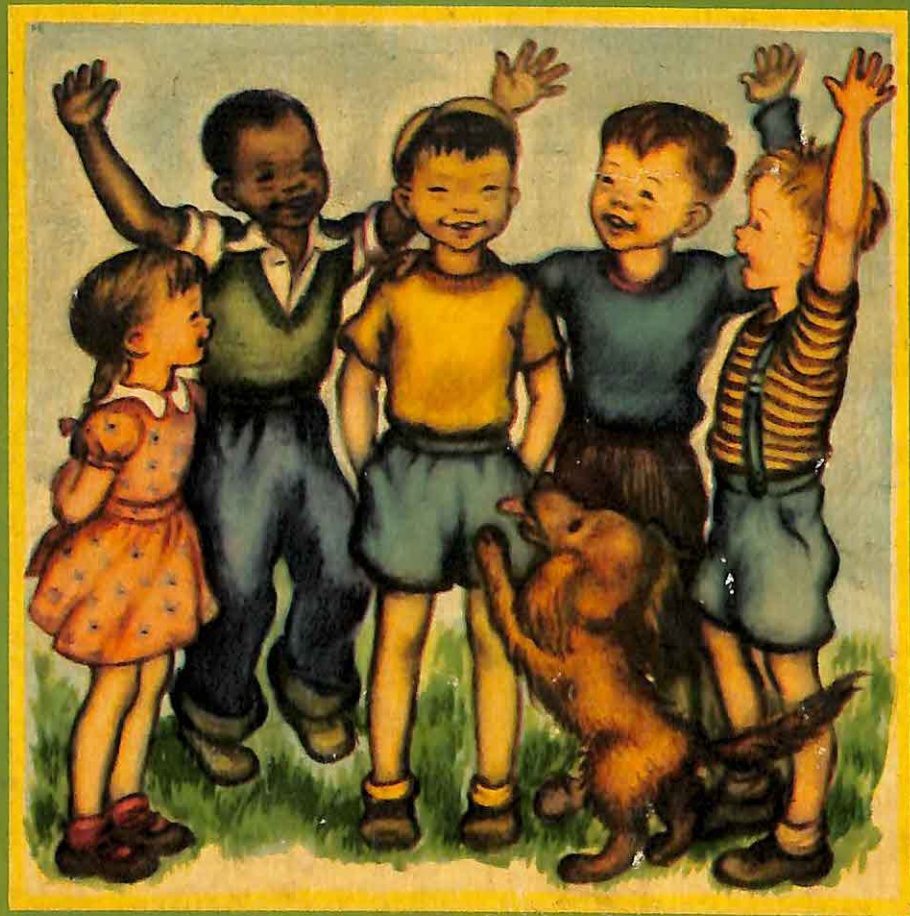


Hurray for Bobo



A STAR-BRIGHT BOOK

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HURRAY FOR BOBO

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BY JOAN SAVAGE

ILLUSTRATED BY BERTA SCHWARTZ



S-304 A STAR-BRIGHT BOOK

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“Little Bo, Little Bo, why are you sad?”

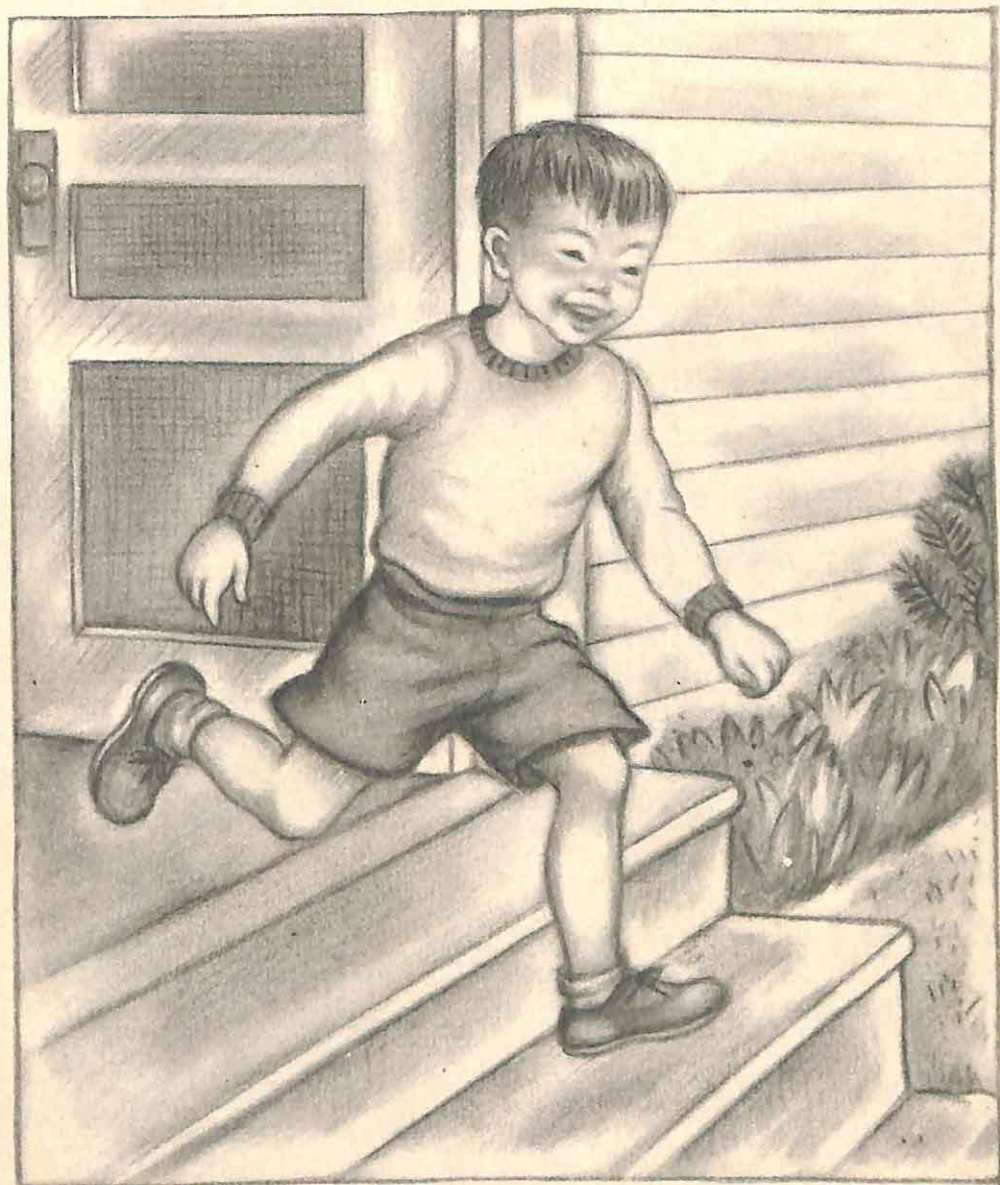
“I want to play with Tommy and Red and Bobby,” said Bobo Chang.

“Speak, Little Bo, and why do you not play with them?”

Bobo did not answer. Mother knew why he did not play with them. They would not let him.

“Listen to your mother, and listen well. ‘He that is not worth having for a friend will never have a friend.’”

Bobo ran out of the house. He went straight to the playground.





Tommy and Red and Bobby were playing baseball.

"Can you play baseball?" asked Bobby.

"I don't know how," said Bobo.

The boys laughed and went on with the game.





“You can play with Rusty and me,” said Janie. “We can’t play baseball either.”

“No, thank you,” said Bobo. He went home again very slowly, very sadly.

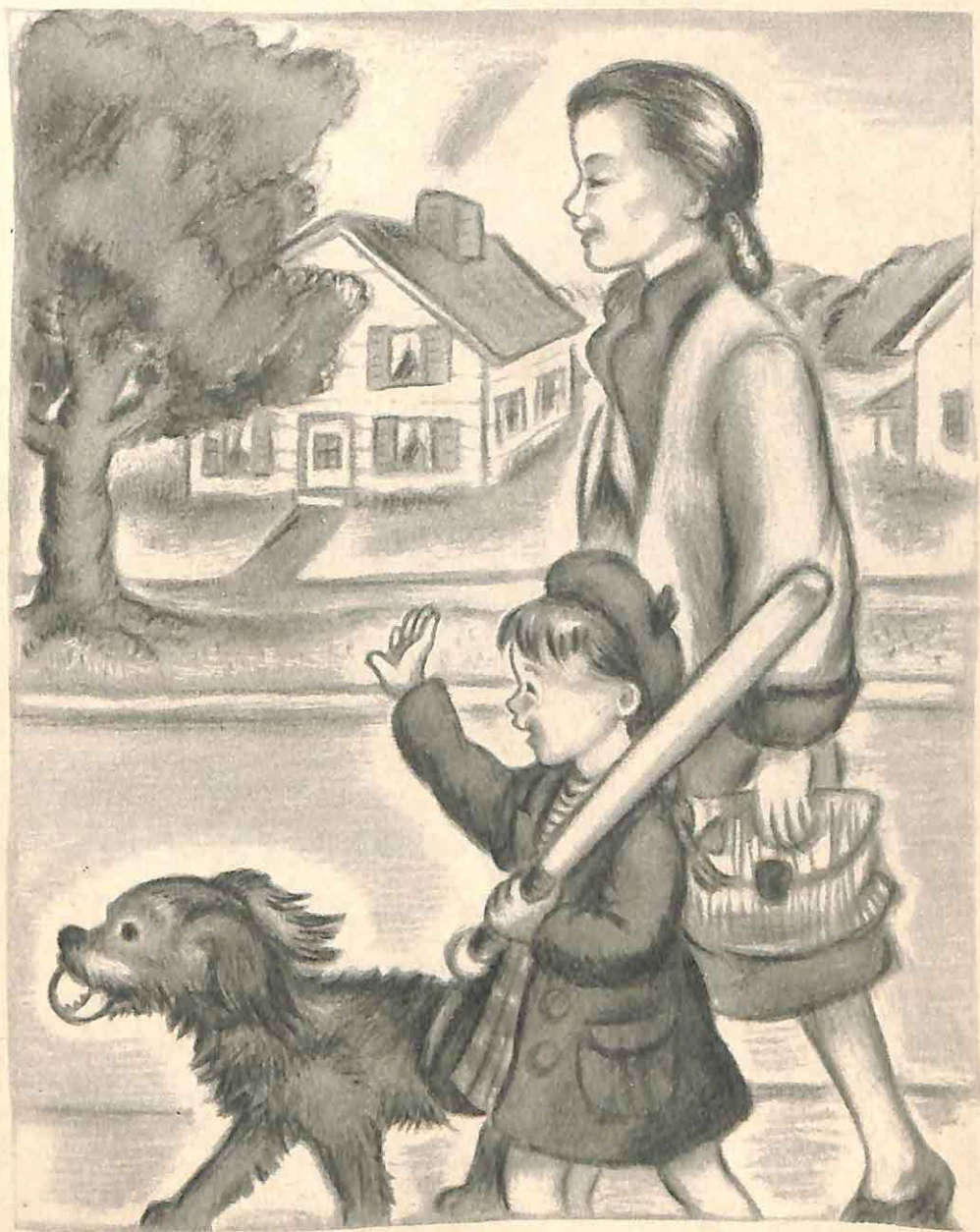
"Oh, Mother, if only I could play baseball!"

"Little Bo, it is better to do than to wish."

Bobo did not know what Mother meant. He did not know why she went out of the house.

After a while, Mother came back. She was with Rusty and Janie. Janie and Rusty were carrying something.







A bat! Janie had a bat, and Rusty had a ball!
"Your mother bought you a bat and ball,"
explained Janie. "Rusty and you and I will learn
together."

"Then will I be worth having for a friend?"
"Of course," said Mother.



Bobo practiced in his yard every day. Janie threw the ball to him and he learned to hit it with his little yellow bat. Soon Bobo could hit the ball very hard and square.

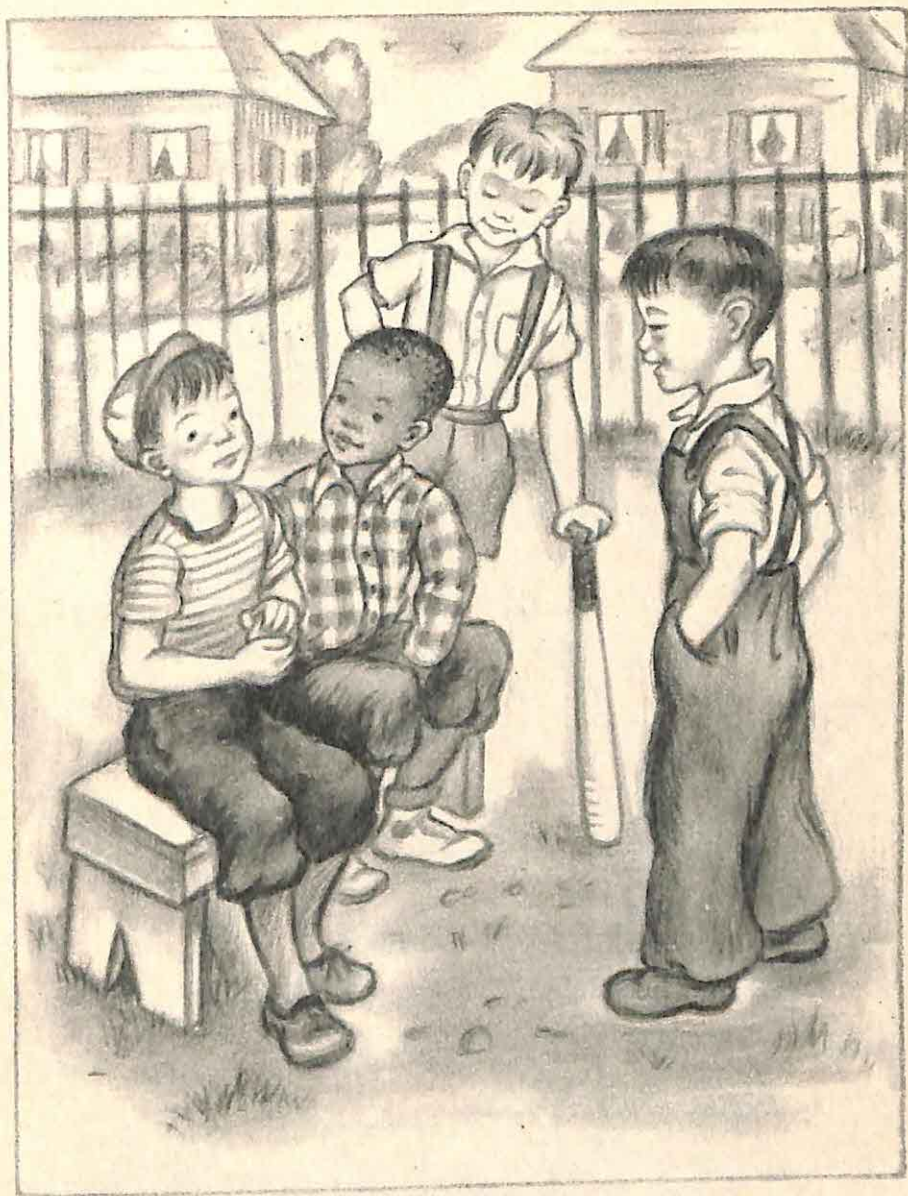


"Get it, Rusty!" Janie yelled and the little pup brought the ball back to her.

Finally Bobo was ready to play baseball with Tommy and Red and Bobby.

He went to the playground.

"May I play?" asked Bobo.



“No,” said Bobby. “You don’t know how.”



"I know now," said Bobo.

"Give him a chance," said Tommy.

"No," said Red. "Only good players can play with us."

Bobo and Janie sat on the swings. "I wish they would give you a chance," said Janie. "You play as well as they do."

"Wishing is not so good as doing," said Bobo. "I know what I will do."

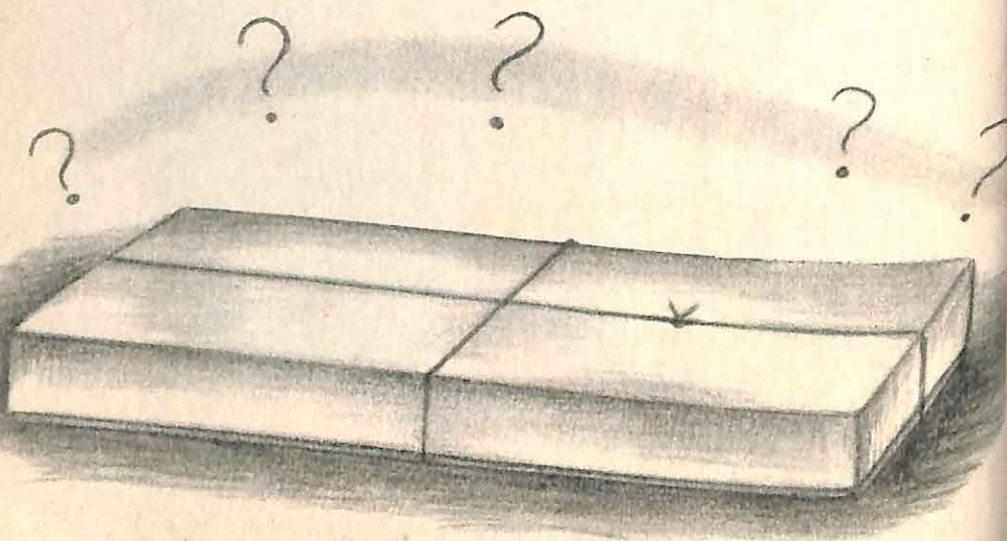


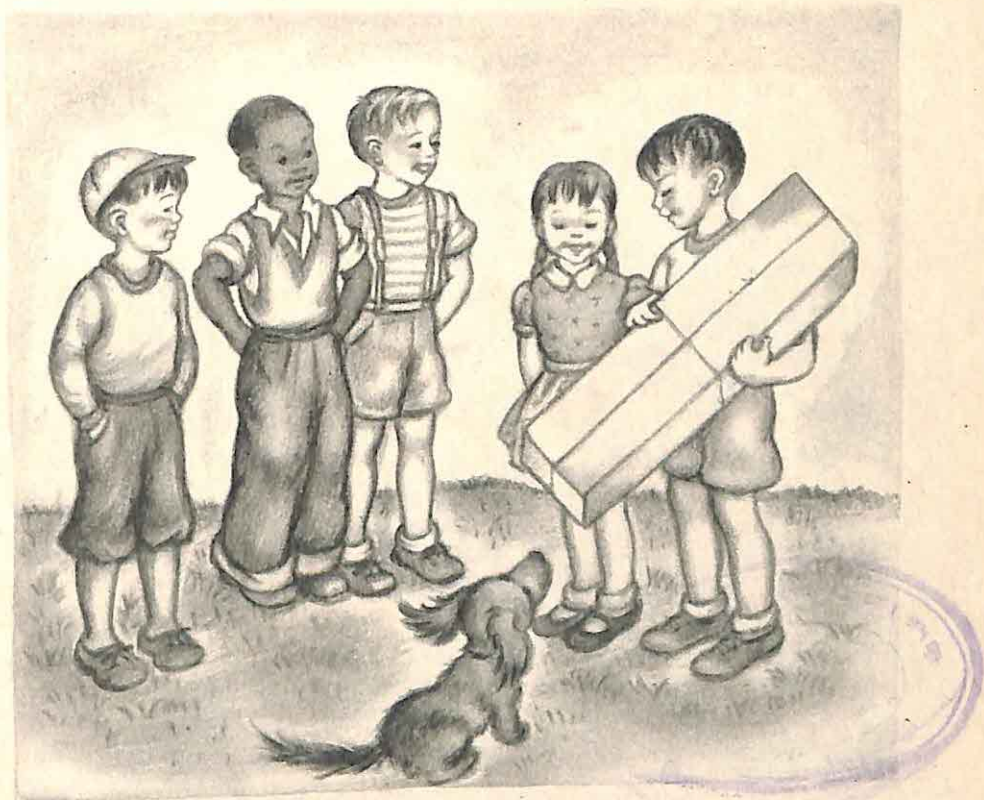
The next morning Bobo went to the playground before anyone else. He was carrying a big white box. Tommy and Red and Bobby came to the playground. Janie and Rusty came, too.

"What is that?" asked Bobby.

"Well," said Bobo—

"It has both nose and eyes,
But it has not breathed since birth,
It cannot go to heaven,
And it will not stay on earth."





"I give up," said Tommy and Bobby together. "Tell us! Tell us!"

"Oh, what could *he* have? He can't even play baseball," said Red.

"Tell us! Tell us!" said Janie. She and Rusty were bouncing up and down like rubber balls from excitement.



"Guess," said Bobo.

"Give us another hint," said Bobby.

"Come on, let's play ball," said Red.

"One more hint," said Bobo—

"It is something that can fly.

Neither bird nor butterfly."



“Oh, Bo, I can’t wait. What is it?” said Janie still bouncing like a new rubber ball.

“An airplane?” guessed Bobby.

“Aw, let’s play ball,” said Red.



Bobo paid no attention to Red. He just gave everyone another hint so that someone could guess what was in the box.

“You will see it float up high,
Like a dragon in the sky.”



No one could guess. Bobo opened the box. He took out something strange and beautiful. It was made of pink and yellow and black paper. It had eyes and a nose. It had wings and a tail.

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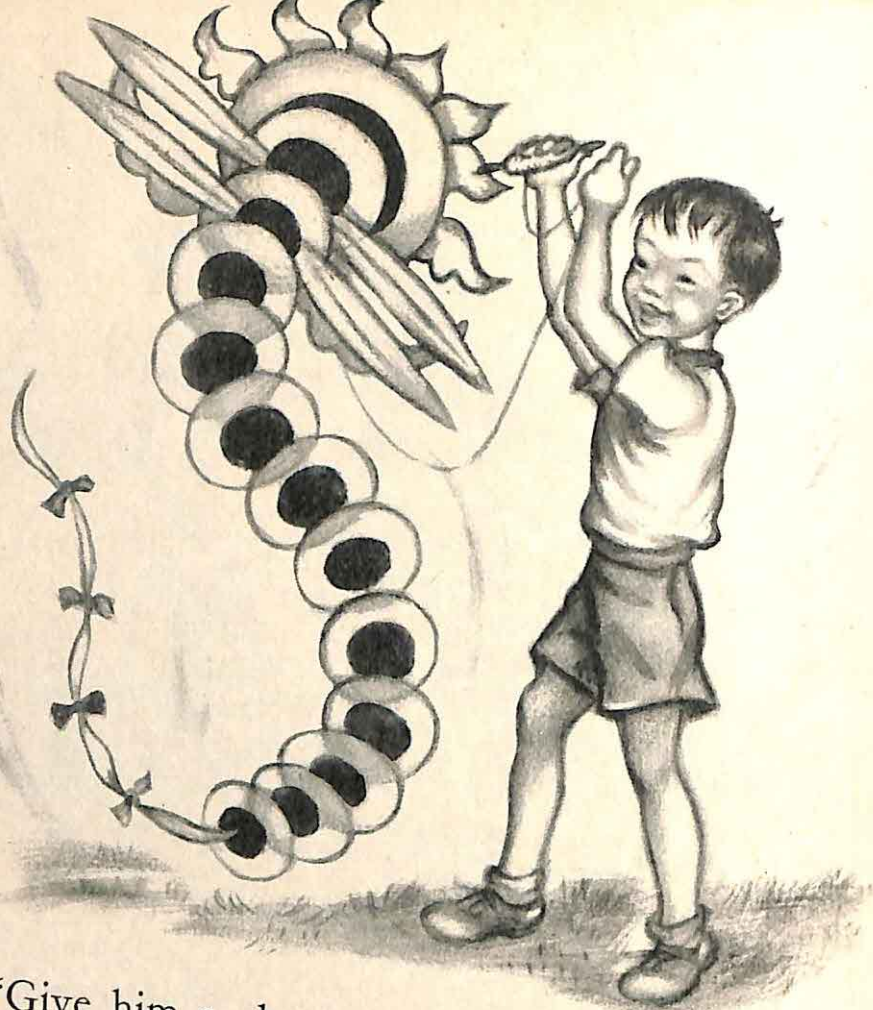
"It looks like a butterfly," said Janie who was bouncing even higher.

"It's like a dragon," said Tommy.

"A kite! A kite! Show us how to fly it, Bo. Show us how," said Bobby.



“How can *he* do anything? He can’t even play baseball,” said Red. Red was wearing a new baseball hat. Everyone was so excited about the kite that no one even noticed the hat. He was very angry.



"Give him a chance. Give him a chance,"
said Tommy and Bobby together.

Bobo stood with his back to the wind. He
tossed the kite in the air and let out the string.

"You will see it float up high,
Like a dragon in the sky," sang Bobo.



"It's the prettiest thing I ever saw," said Janie.

Rusty was jumping and barking at the kite.

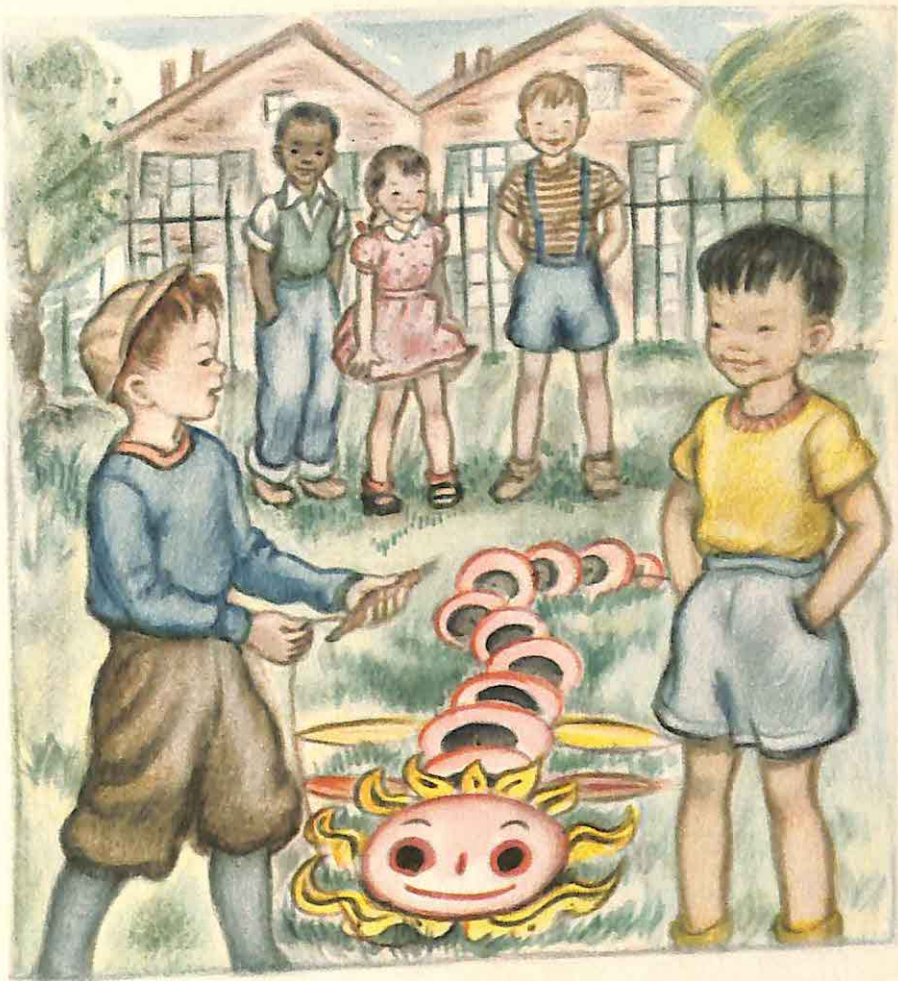
"Let us try. Let us try," said Bobby and Tommy.

"I can do it," said Red. "Give it to me."

Bobo brought the kite down winding the string slowly and carefully. He handed it to Red.

Red tossed the kite into the air. It sank to the ground. He tried again. It darted suddenly and fell dragging on the earth again.





“You aren’t so smart,” said Bobby.

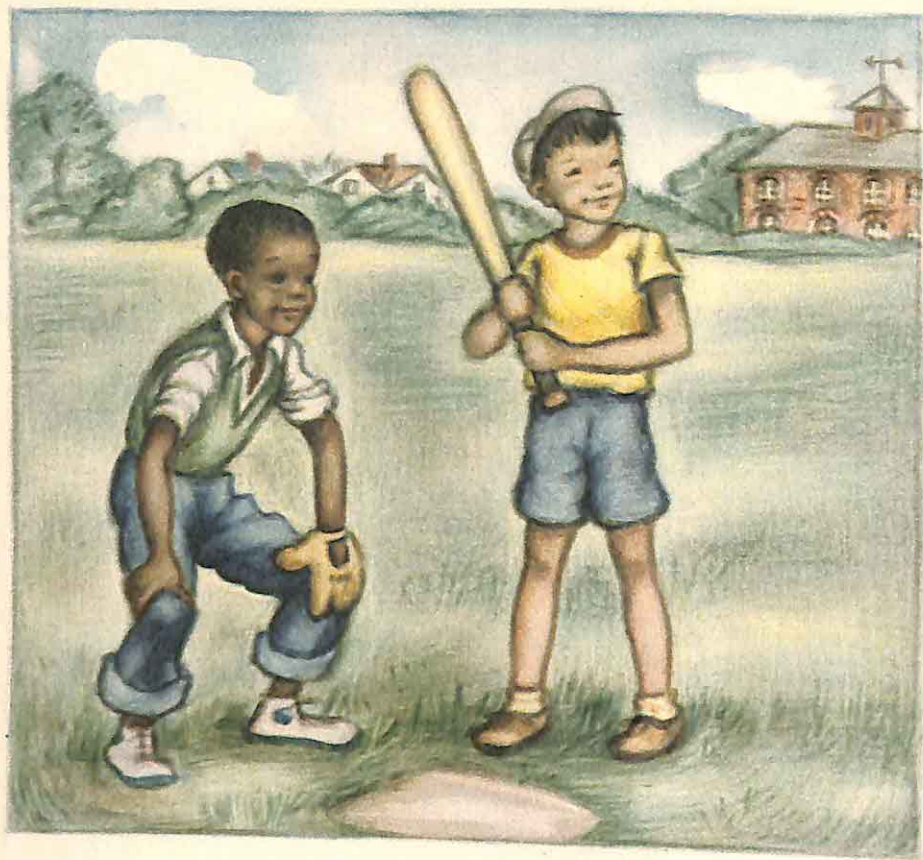
Red tried and tried. He just could not get it to fly. “Show me how, Bobo. Show me. Then we’ll let you play baseball,” said Red.



Bobo did not answer.
"And you can wear my new cap for your
first baseball game," added Red.
They shook hands.



In no time at all Bobo taught all his new friends to fly the kite, the lovely dragon, and to bring it down again.



“Now, let’s play ball,” said Red.

“Janie and Rusty can play ball, too,” said Bobo.

“We will teach all three of you,” said Tommy. The boys did not know that Bobo and his friends had practiced every day in the yard.



It was Bobo's turn to bat. He wore Red's new baseball cap. Janie was ready to pitch the ball to him. Rusty was out in the field ready to chase the ball. Tommy and Red and Bobby thought that Janie could not throw the ball, that Bobo could not bat it, that Rusty could not chase it and bring it back.



Janie threw the ball straight and hard.



Bobo swung the little yellow bat and hit
the ball way out past the swings.



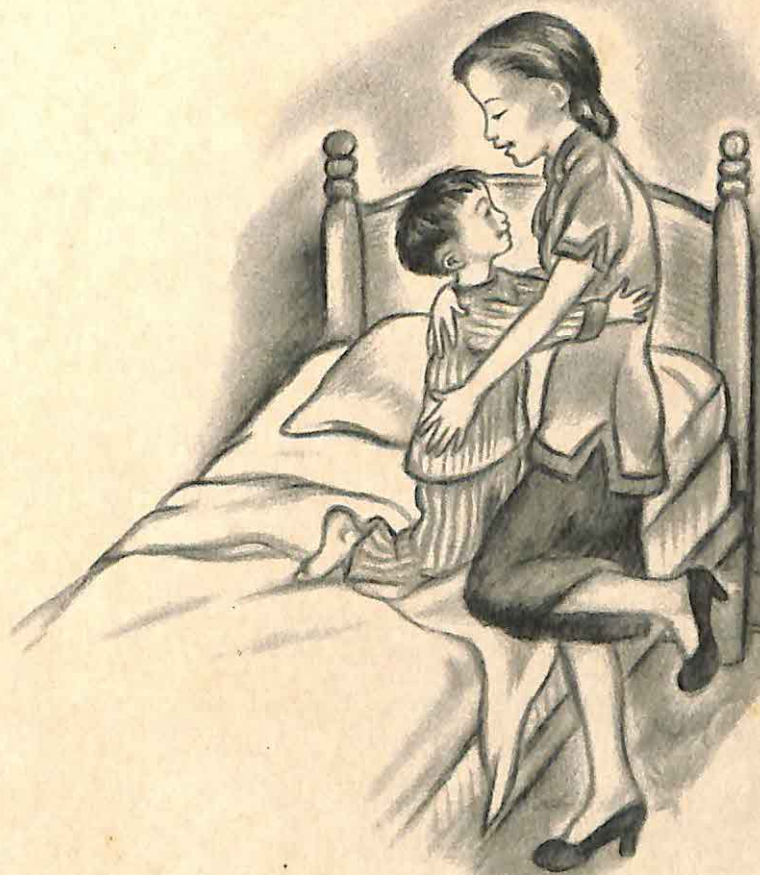
“Get it, Rusty!” yelled Janie.



Everyone shouted at once. Hurray for Bobo!
Hurray for Bobo Chang!



Bobo's mother heard the shouting and smiled quietly to herself.





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